Factors responsible for coal mine disaster

1157. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that different factors responsible for most of the coal mines disasters have come to the fore during the recent mishaps in the BCCL coal mines in Bihar; and

(b) if so, what are those factors and what steps have been taken to remove them in order to prevent recurrence of any such coal mines accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) The causes and circumstances of the Bagdigi accident will be known only when the enquiry into the accident is completed.

Updating of Mining Maps

1158. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mining maps are not regularly updated;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Prior approval of the Director General of Mines Safety was taken before mining so far as Bagdigi is concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAN):

(a) and (b) It has been reported by Coal India Ltd. that mine plans are updated quarterly as per statute.

(c) Yes, Sir. Prior approval had been taken from Director General Mines safety for mining work of Bagdigi Colliery.

Legislation for safety in coal mines

1159. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Government sponsored report on coal sector has suggested enactment of a new legislation for dealing with safety in coal mines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and